UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

BURAK BILGEC, 75 Rock Road Hawthorne, NJ 07506 Civil Action No. 2:18-cv-11707-SDW-LDW

Plaintiff,

v.

VITAL PLUS PHARMACY 10 West Broadway Paterson, NJ 07505

&

GEORGE CHANG t/d/b/a Vital Plus Pharmacy 10 West Broadway Paterson, NJ, 07505

Defendants.

JOINT MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF PARTIES' SETTLEMENT AND FOR DISMISSAL OF ACTION WITH PREJUDICE

Plaintiff Burak Brian Bilgec ("Plaintiff") and Defendants, Vital Plus Pharmacy Inc., and George Chang (collectively "Defendants") (sometimes referred to together as the "Parties"), through their respective counsel, file this Joint Motion for Approval of Parties' Settlement And For Dismissal Of Action With Prejudice. Plaintiff and Defendants respectfully state as follows:

1. In the Complaint, Plaintiff alleges that the Defendants, among other things, violated the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"), 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.*, and comparable state laws, by failing to pay wages and overtime premiums. Defendants deny the allegations in Plaintiff's Complaint. Defendants further dispute Plaintiff's contention that he is owed the wages and overtime premiums alleged. Plaintiff and Defendants have reached a mutually satisfactory

settlement of all claims against all Defendants which they have memorialized in a confidential Settlement Agreement and General Release ("Settlement Agreement").

- 2. When an employee brings a private action against his employer (or former employer) under the FLSA, a wholly private settlement between the parties is not enforceable. Accordingly, in such a situation the Court may enter a stipulated judgment dismissing the case after ensuring that the settlement is a fair and reasonable resolution of a *bona fide* dispute under the FLSA. *See Brumley v. Camin Cargo Control, Inc.*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 40599 at *4-5 (D.N.J. Mar. 26, 2012).
- 3. As a material part of their settlement, the Parties have agreed that it is in their mutual interest for their Settlement Agreement to remain confidential, and that it should not become part of the public record. Accordingly, the Parties have not attached a copy of the Settlement Agreement to this Motion. However, the Parties, through their counsel, will submit a copy of the Settlement Agreement for review by the Court *in camera* under seal should the Court request to examine the Agreement signed by all Parties.
- 4. The Parties agree and stipulate that the Settlement Agreement is a fair and reasonable resolution of a *bona fide* dispute both as to liability and the amount of any compensation allegedly owed under the FLSA (and/or comparable state laws), including Plaintiff's attorneys' fees and costs. Accordingly, the Parties ask the Court to enter an order approving the settlement.
- 5. The Parties agree and submit to this Honorable Court that the resolution of the disputes reached is fair, reasonable and appropriate given all of the facts in dispute, legal disputes, and other circumstances and that it will not frustrate the implementation of the FLSA in the workplace. Specifically, the Parties agree and stipulate that this case was settled as a result of an analysis of the hours that the Plaintiff worked and the wages that Plaintiff was paid, and contested facts of allegations between the Parties, so as to fully compensate Plaintiff.

- 6. The Agreement provides for the Court to retain jurisdiction until all payment has be rendered.
 - 7. The Parties have attached a proposed Order for the Court's consideration.

WHEREFORE, the Parties respectfully request that this Court approve settlement of this action as a means of reasonably resolving the disputes among the Parties and Order that this Court retain jurisdiction until all payments will be rendered and cleared in accordance with the agreed upon payment plan set out in the Settlement Agreement and at that point, that this Action be dismissed, with the Parties to bear their respective costs and attorneys' fees.

s/ Graham F. Baird

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Dated: November 16, 2018

s/ Gregg H. Salka

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Attorneys for Defendants

Dated: November 16, 2018

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on November 16, 2018, I electronically filed the foregoing Joint Motion for Approval of Parties' Settlement And For Dismissal Of Action With Prejudice, with the clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF System, which will send a Notice of Electronic Filing to all counsel or parties of record on the attached service list.

Dated: November 16, 2018 By: s/ Gregg H. Salka

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Attorneys for Defendants

SERVICE LIST CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:18-cv-11707 (SDW)(LDW)

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